



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Akira GYOUTOKU et al.

Group Art Unit : Unknown

Appl No : 10/726,594

Examiner : Unknown

Filed : December 4, 2003

For : IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to an examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the claims, as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this Preliminary Amendment.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 7 of this Preliminary Amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 15 of this Preliminary Amendment